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REQUEST TO CONSIDER H.R. 18, NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION ACT

(Mr. WENSTRUP asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, when I became a physician, I took a Hippocratic oath to do no harm. It has guided my actions and my conscience to do no harm.

For the past 41 years, most Americans, regardless of their views on abortion, have agreed on one very simple principle: No taxpayer should be required to pay for abortion. We have agreed that Americans who believe life begins at conception should not be coerced by the government to violate their conscience.

As a Senator, Joe Biden told his constituents that, "The government should not tell those with strong convictions against abortion, such as you and I, that we must pay for them." That was Joe Biden then.

Tragically, President Biden and our colleagues across the aisle now want to eliminate lifesaving Hyde amendment protections and force every U.S. taxpayer to fund abortions through government spending.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 18, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JONES). As the Chair previously advised, that request cannot be entertained absent appropriate clearance.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DON CAMERINO GONZALEZ VALLE

(Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to honor the life of a family man, a entrepreneur, a community member, and a friend.

Don Camerino Gonzalez Valle, who passed away last week, embodied the American Dream. Camerino and his dad came to the U.S. to work in the Bracero program, just like my father had.

Camerino didn't fear hard work. He worked in the field, at meatpacking plants, as a taxi driver, and a bartender. But he found success by appealing to our community's cravings for food that reminded them of home. He founded Taqueria Los Comales in 1973, in our neighborhood of Little Village, serving delicious tacos al pastor, just like the ones you find in Mexico.

His strong work ethic and good eye for business soon turned into a restaurant with a chain of over 25

taquerias that went as far as Houston and Wisconsin. But Don Camerino was more than a businessman; he was, in a way, a father figure for many recently arrived immigrants who could find a plate of food and a job at his restaurants.

On holidays, like Thanksgiving and Christmas, he would keep the restaurant open so that the immigrants, who were far from home, could feel closer to their country of birth. Our common respect and admiration for our immigrant community is what brought us together as friends. He was also adamant about preserving important traditions, like la charrería, the Mexican-style rodeo, which he practiced with great discipline and honor.

When I decided to run for office, he supported me. My wife, Evelyn, and I send our thoughts to Don Camerino's family during this time. He will be sorely missed in our community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF VERNON DEE MARTIN

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the life of Mr. Vernon Dee Martin of St. Simons Island, Georgia, who peacefully passed away on June 12 at the age of 78.

Vernon was born in Oklahoma and moved to St. Simons Island in 1969, after accepting a position with the Coastal Georgia Regional Development Commission. At the time, he would become the youngest executive director of a regional agency in the United States. It is at the Coastal Georgia Regional Development Commission that I met Vernon, as I served as the chair of that commission during the time that he was executive director.

Some of Vernon's accomplishments include securing the Federal Law Enforcement Center in Brunswick and the Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base in Camden County. He also proudly served in the Georgia Army and Georgia Air National Guard for 40 years, retiring as a colonel.

Through every position he had, he worked to better his community and improve the lives of others. One cannot visit Georgia's First Congressional District without seeing the profound impacts Vernon made for his community.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and all who knew him during this most difficult time.

INVEST IN AMERICA ACT

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share how the INVEST in America Act, which we just passed, will benefit residents of my district, as

well as communities across the country.

Year after year, the U.S. Congress has failed to muster the political will to properly fund American infrastructure. State and local authorities don't have enough money to meet basic maintenance needs, much less to make investments in modernization, expansion, or other improvements.

Thankfully, the INVEST in America Act can change that. It provides \$715 billion to repair and improve our Nation's infrastructure, create good-paying jobs, and lay the foundation for robust economic growth in the 21st century.

I am proud to say that this package includes almost \$21 million for projects to help communities in my district, small businesses, commuters, and residents. These projects include the redesign of dangerous rail crossings, upgrades to commuter transit stations, bike lanes, and safety improvements to areas like the Cobbs Creek Parkway, which is the site of hundreds of accidents—many of them fatal.

We have more work to do to get an infrastructure package to President Biden's desk and signed into law, but passing the INVEST in America Act is an important step towards that goal.

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(Mr. MOORE of Utah asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I stand in support of H.R. 18, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act.

For nearly half a century, Republicans and Democrats shared a bipartisan position that we should not use taxpayer dollars to fund abortions. Unfortunately, Democrats have now changed their mind.

Mr. Speaker, it is imperative that we codify the Hyde amendment, which protects the conscience rights of all Americans. We must also continue working across the aisle on solutions for low-income mothers and children, including housing, childcare, and healthcare to ensure every child is given equal opportunities, no matter the circumstances of their conception or birth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 18, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair previously advised, that request cannot be entertained absent appropriate clearance.

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(Mrs. LESKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my profound support for life.

Unfortunately, life is under attack in America right now. With the introduction of a Democrat budget that does not feature the Hyde amendment protections, taxpayers could soon be funding abortions—something that has been outlawed for many years.

Ending these safeguards is both unpopular and unrepresentative of the will of the American people. Taxpayers should not be forced to subsidize abortions that destroy the dignity of life and millions of unborn babies in America.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 18, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair previously advised, that request cannot be entertained absent appropriate clearance.

HUMAN RIGHTS ATROCITIES IN CHINA

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as the Chinese Communist Party marks a century of power, Americans must renew our efforts to hold this regime accountable for its human rights atrocities. The Chinese Government has imprisoned more than 1 million Uyghurs, persecuting this religious minority for their fundamental beliefs.

For 100 years, the Chinese Communist Party has committed gross violations of human rights, mass imprisonment, torture, and genocide. Now more than ever, Americans must stand strong with the people of China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. We must support the Chinese people's right to free expression, their right to privacy, and the right to life itself.

As Americans celebrate the Fourth of July, we must remember that our freedom is much too precious to be taken for granted. As President Ronald Reagan said, freedom is a fragile thing, and it is never more than one generation away from extinction.

HONORING JOHN MCMAHON

(Mr. OBERNOLTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the career of an exemplary public servant in my district.

San Bernardino County Sheriff John McMahon will retire this month after 36 years of service to the people of San Bernardino.

His career started in 1985, when he was assigned to the Sheriff's station in

the town of Needles. And since then, he served in 15 different stations. He has served in every rank possible to hold in the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, and he served as the sheriff of my county since 2014.

In that time, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department has become known as one of the premier law enforcement agencies in the entire Nation under his exemplary leadership.

We thank him for his service to the people of our district, and we wish him and his wife, Shelly, the best of luck in retirement.

DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, recently, if you look at the CDC numbers, we hit an all-time record in drug overdoses for a 12-month period at 90,000. That is up from 45,000 only 6 years ago.

There are two dangerous trends that are going the exact opposite way than you would think, if we care about the people who died and their families.

First of all, because of the antipolice hysteria out there, the number of police are being reduced; and for that reason, at least in my area, they are no longer doing criminal investigations in some cities when there are drug overdoses.

Secondly, I think the major reason for the massive increase in deaths is the increase in fentanyl deaths—fentanyl being actually much more dangerous than heroin.

We now have this happening at a time when the Border Patrol is being pulled off the border to process unaccompanied minors and we have the horrible situation of not even increasing the budget of the Border Patrol.

Mr. Speaker, if we care about the 90,000 people who die every year of drug overdoses, it is time to start caring a little bit more about the border and care a little bit more about the number of police we have in our country.

SLOVENIA TAKES THE HELM

(Mr. GOSAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the chairman of the U.S. Slovenia Friendship Caucus to commemorate today, July 1, as the first day of the Slovenia's presidency of the Council of the European Union.

Slovenia takes the helm of one of the EU's main decisionmaking bodies at a challenging time not just for the EU, but for the world at large. Slovenia will manage a Europe working to control the COVID pandemic, seeking to repair the economic and social damage from this virus; all the while dealing with the ongoing and critical issues with the EU and the U.S., such as countering Chinese and Russian influence,

bolstering cybersecurity, and charting an economic path for the future.

As Slovenia begins its 6-month presidency, it is doing so under the slogan, "Together. Resilient. Europe," which outlines an agenda where Slovenia seeks to facilitate the European recovery while also reflecting on Europe's future, strengthening the rule of law and European values, and increasing security and stability in the European neighborhood.

Slovenia officials have also made their intentions known to Balkanize the EU through engaging Western Balkan states which have yet been able to join.

Slovenia's presidential platform makes it clear they are up to the unique challenge. The challenge is not just recovering from a once-in-a-generation pandemic, but thinking strategically to promote a more resilient Europe in the future.

I wish our strong friend and ally, Slovenia, all the best.

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(Mr. FITZGERALD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to stand for life and to speak about the removal of the Hyde amendment from President Biden's budget.

The President's decision to remove this lifesaving measure from his budget was disappointing, as this provision has been in every budget since its enactment in 1980.

H.R. 18, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, would correct this misguided omission from the President's budget for codifying the Hyde amendment into Federal law, preventing taxpayer dollars from funding abortions. In no circumstance should any American be forced to go against their conscience and publicly fund abortions with their tax dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration on H.R. 18, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair previously advised, that request cannot be entertained absent appropriate clearance.

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ENDING CRISIS OF CRIME ON CITY STREETS

(Mr. NEHLS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NEHLS. Mr. Speaker, there is a crisis of crime on our city streets. Violent crime is up double digits in Seattle, Portland, Austin, Oakland, and major cities across our great country.